

1952

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor A. G. KING, J.P.

Clerk of the Council :

S. M. FORMAN

Staff of the Public Health Department :

Medical Officer of Health :

W. G. SMEATON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

A. ATKIN, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

S. LASSMAN, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
(Appointment terminated September, 1952)

P. McPHUN, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

R. LYALL, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
(Appointed October, 1952)

Rodent Control Officer :

A. GRAVES

Medical Officer's Clerk :

D. DADY

Sanitary Inspector's Clerk :

C. H. CUTHBERT

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,
126 London Road,
Boston.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boston Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report for the year 1952.

As will be seen from the various statistics the health of the District has continued to be very satisfactory. There has been a slight increase in the Birth Rate, whilst the Death Rate is lower than for the previous year. In both cases the rates compare very favourably with those given for the whole of England and Wales.

There has been no undue prevalence of infectious diseases in the District and the number of cases notified shows a considerable decrease as compared with the previous year.

Again many houses have been built during the past year and the Council is to be congratulated. At the same time it must be borne in mind that in the interests of Public Health, sewage disposal schemes must keep pace with the housing programme. While it is gratifying to note that the sewage disposal schemes for Fishtoft and Wyberton will shortly be commenced there still remains a pressing necessity for other areas within these parishes to be included. This is particularly noticeable in the Tytton Lane East area of Wyberton where intermittent nuisances such as overflowing cesspools and ditch pollution are proving a very heavy burden on the Cleansing Department in its day to day work. The only effective remedy is a comprehensive sewage disposal scheme.

The Clean Food Campaign is still proving a success in bringing home to the public the great need for care in the handling of food. The campaign aims at tackling the problem of food infection at its inception by encouraging the adoption of simple codes of practice by all food handlers. I am much indebted to the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the good work he is accomplishing in this direction, and thanks are also due to the traders in the District for their continued co-operation.

In conclusion, I wish to convey my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support, and to acknowledge the assistance given to me by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and all other officials of the Council.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. SMEATON,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1953.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Area (in acres) | .. .. . | 84,398 |
| Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1952) | .. .. . | 20,740 |
| Number of inhabited houses | .. .. . | 6,527 |
| Estimated average number of persons per inhabited house | | 3.19 |
| Estimated average number of persons per acre | .. .. | .25 |
| Estimated number of inhabited houses per acre | .. .. | .08 |
| Estimated product of a penny rate | .. .. . | £225 |
| Rateable Value | .. .. . | £60,370 |

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions of the District have remained unchanged during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude) | 17.2 |
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted) | 17.5 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births | 37.8 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude) | 9.7 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted) | 10.5 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) | 2.7 |
| Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age : | |
| (a) All infants per 1,000 live births | 22.5 |
| (b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births | 23.7 |
| (c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births | Nil |

Death Rates of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

| | | | |
|-----|--|---------|------|
| (a) | All infants per 1,000 live births | .. .. . | 14.0 |
| (b) | Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births | .. | 14.8 |
| (c) | Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births | | Nil |

OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS.

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (*e.g.* infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

POPULATION :

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for the mid-year is given as 20,740, a decrease of 110 as compared with the estimate for mid-1951. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 155.

BIRTHS :

A total of 356 live births (173 males, 183 females) were registered during 1952. This figure gives a crude birth rate of 17.2 per 1000 of the population and a rate of 17.5 per 1,000 when the comparability factor has been applied. Both figures compare very favourably with those for last year which were 16.6 and 17.1 respectively, and also with the rate given for the whole of England and Wales in 1952, namely 15.3.

The number of illegitimate live births was 19 (7 males, 12 females) which is 5.3% of the total live births. The total illegitimate live births in 1951 was 16.

STILL BIRTHS :

There were 14 still births registered (9 males, 5 females) giving a still birth rate of 37.8 per 1,000 total live and still births, as compared with 22.6 in 1951.

Taken as a rate per 1,000 of the estimated population, a figure of 0.67 per 1,000 is arrived at, which is slightly higher than the figure given by the Registrar-General for the whole of England and Wales, namely 0.35.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

There was one death under this heading in 1952, the resulting death rate per 1,000 total live and still births being 2.7.

INFANT MORTALITY :

There were 8 deaths of infants under one year of age (4 males, 4 females). The death rate of 22.5 per 1,000 live births shows an increase on the rate of 17.3 for 1951, but compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales in 1952, namely 27.6.

The total number of infant deaths under 4 weeks of age was 5 (2 males, 3 females) giving a death rate of 14.0 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 14.4 in 1951.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :

The actual number of deaths allocated to the District after deduction of those occurring in non-residents and addition of deaths of residents which occurred outside the District was 201. The resulting crude death rate of 9.7 per 1,000 of the population and the adjusted rate of 10.5 show a decrease on the corresponding rates for last year which were 11.2 and 12.1 respectively.

The figure for the whole of England and Wales for 1952 was 11.3.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1952.

| No. | Cause of Death | | | | Males Females | |
|-----|---|----|----|----|---------------|----|
| 1. | Tuberculosis, respiratory | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, other | .. | .. | .. | 1 | — |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 4. | Diphtheria .. | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 8. | Measles | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 4 |
| 11. | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | .. | .. | .. | 2 | — |
| 12. | Malignant neoplasm, breast | .. | .. | .. | — | 2 |
| 13. | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | .. | .. | .. | 10 | 10 |
| 15. | Leukæmia, aleukæmia | .. | .. | .. | — | — |
| 16. | Diabetes | .. | .. | .. | — | 1 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 20 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | .. | .. | .. | 19 | 6 |

| <i>No.</i> | <i>Cause of Death</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
|------------|--|--------------|----------------|
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | 2 | 1 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | 15 | 21 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | 3 | 7 |
| 22. | Influenza | 1 | — |
| 23. | Pneumonia | 3 | 1 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | 7 | 3 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | — | 1 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 1 | — |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa | — | — |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | 3 | 2 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | 6 | — |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | — | 1 |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | 1 | 1 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 10 | 11 |
| 33. | Motor Vehicle Accidents | 1 | — |
| 34. | All other accidents | 2 | — |
| 35. | Suicide | 1 | 1 |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | — | — |
| ALL CAUSES | | 107 | 94 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Lincoln. Samples of ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for bacteriological examination.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, have continued to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

Samples of effluents from the Council Housing Estates sewage works have been examined by the Department's Sanitary Inspectors using a Field Testing Outfit.

AMBULANCE SERVICE :

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the County Transport Department.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :

These services are administered by the Holland County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS :

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the provision and administration of Treatment Centres and Clinics is variously delegated to the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council.

The treatment of Scabies and similar complaints is carried out at the Health Centre, London Road, Boston, which is under the control of the County Council. Further details of the number of cases of Scabies dealt with will be found in the next section of this Report.

NURSING IN THE HOME :

In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the home nursing service is under the control of the Local Health Authority.

HOSPITALS :

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :

Boston General Hospital — Acute General.

London Road Hospital, Boston — Orthopædic and Acute General.

Boston Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium — Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital, Boston — Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton — Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Childrens' Hospital — Sick Children.

Bargate Physiotherapy Centre, Boston — Physiotherapy.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47 — REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.

No action was taken by the Council under this Section.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year, the numbers admitted to hospital, and the total number of deaths.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1952.

| Disease | Cases Notified | Confirmed Cases | Cases admitted to Hospital | Deaths |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Chicken Pox | 137 | 137 | 1 | Nil |
| Erysipelas | 5 | 5 | Nil | Nil |
| Food Poisoning | 4 | 2 | Nil | Nil |
| Measles | 126 | 126 | Nil | Nil |
| Pneumonia | 18 | 18 | 2 | Nil |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 1 | 1 | 1 | Nil |
| Scabies | 3 | 3 | Nil | Nil |
| Scarlet Fever | 11 | 11 | Nil | Nil |
| Whooping Cough | 40 | 40 | Nil | Nil |

There has been a decrease in the number of notifiable diseases occurring in the District during the year and only 345 cases were notified as compared with 804 in 1951. Below will be found details of the diseases in which the incidence differed appreciably.

| | 1951 | 1952 |
|----------------------|------|------|
| Measles | 313 | 126 |
| Whooping Cough | 219 | 40 |
| Chicken Pox | 233 | 137 |

Once again no cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the District. This is a very satisfactory position but it can only be maintained by immunisation. Parents must therefore continue to have their children immunised and thus provide them with the only safeguard against this disease.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors made 21 visits in connection with investigation and control of infectious diseases and 9 disinfections were carried out.

TUBERCULOSIS :

Cases notified within the Rural District come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, Central Lincolnshire Chest Unit.

The following table gives details of new cases notified and deaths occurring during the year.

| Age Groups | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|------------|----------------|----|--------------------|----|----------------|----|--------------------|----|
| | Respiratory M. | F. | Non-Respiratory M. | F. | Respiratory M. | F. | Non-Respiratory M. | F. |
| 0—1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1—5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5—15 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15—25 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25—35 | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35—45 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 45—55 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55—65 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Over 65 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 8 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — |

TREATMENT OF SCABIES :

The Holland County Council is responsible for the provision of facilities and for the cleansing of persons requiring treatment, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the District Council. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, arrangements in force ensure that details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

During the year 3 cases of Scabies were notified in the District, and in each case treatment was provided by the patient's own doctor.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA :

All immunisation work within the District is under the jurisdiction of the Holland County Council. Below are given details of the number of children immunised during the year :

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Children under 5 years of age | .. | .. | .. | .. | 195 |
| Children 5—14 years of age | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| Children given a secondary or reinforcing injection | .. | | | | 130 |

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. W. R. Beardall, the Council's Water Engineer, for the following report on the Rural Water Supply :—

1. Statistics.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|-------------------------|
| Length of mains laid during the year | .. | .. | 5338 yards |
| Total length of mains in use | .. | .. | 345 $\frac{3}{8}$ miles |
| Domestic consumption of water | .. | .. | 97,042,000 gallons |
| Average daily consumption per house | .. | .. | 56 gallons |
| Estimated consumption per person per day | .. | .. | 14.6 gallons |
| Number of domestic consumers | .. | .. | 4730 |
| Number of properties supplied by meter | .. | .. | 1566 |

2. Particulars of number of dwellings and estimated number of population supplied.

| <i>Parish</i> | <i>Dwellings</i> | <i>Population</i> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Algarkirk | 162 | 568 |
| Amber Hill.. .. . | 141 | 494 |
| Bicker | 222 | 742 |
| Benington | 152 | 535 |
| Brothertoft | 138 | 484 |
| Butterwick | 171 | 588 |
| Fishtoft | 755 | 2375 |
| Fosdyke | 137 | 474 |
| Frampton | 363 | 1185 |
| Freiston | 292 | 1002 |
| Harts Grounds and Pelhams Lands | 25 | 97 |
| Kirton | 890 | 3025 |
| Leverton | 189 | 644 |
| Old Leake | 452 | 1542 |
| Sutterton | 293 | 1005 |
| Swineshead.. .. . | 535 | 1804 |
| Wigtoft | 152 | 513 |
| Wrangle | 361 | 1240 |
| Wyberton | 551 | 1990 |

3. Water Analysis.

Eight samples of water drawn from the mains at various points in the District were submitted by the Public Health Department for analysis to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene or to the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln. In every case the result showed the water to be highly satisfactory.

Representative results of analyses are as follows :—

(a) BACTERIOLOGICAL taken at Water Tower, Sutterton.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37°C,
0 per 100 ml.

(b) BACTERIOLOGICAL taken at Main Road, Wigtoft.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C,
0 per 100 ml.

(c) CHEMICAL taken at Water Tower, Sutterton.

| <i>Chemical Characters -</i> | | | | | <i>Parts per 100,000</i> |
|---|----|----|----|----|--------------------------|
| Total Solids dried at 100°C. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 45.6 |
| Loss on Ignition (after re-carbonating) | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4.4 |
| Chlorine in Chlorides | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2.40 |
| Chlorine x 1.647—Sodium Chloride | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3.95 |
| Nitrites | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Nitrogen as Nitrates | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.01 |
| Saline Ammonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.0042 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.0062 |
| Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0.017 |
| Hardness — Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | 27.0 |
| „ Temporary | .. | .. | .. | .. | 16.0 |
| „ Permanent | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11.0 |
| Poisonous Metals — Lead | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| „ „ Copper | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR ON THE WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Boston Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

Housing and sewage disposal schemes are both receiving major attention by the Council.

The repair of existing dwellings still remains a difficult problem and many houses within the District require unreasonable amounts spending on them, based on present day building prices and rents, in order to render them reasonably fit for continued occupation. Controlled Rents do not allow for extensive works to be carried out and even minor essential items cause a financial hardship to many owners. It seems more than likely that until some revision of the Rent Restrictions Acts takes place, the repair of existing dwellings will remain most unsatisfactory. Many of the houses are rapidly falling into the category where they are incapable

of being satisfactorily repaired and action for Demolition under Section II of the Housing Act 1936 will have to be taken ; rehousing of the tenants being a matter which the Council must include in its future Housing Policy.

The Council's Public Cleansing Services have run very satisfactorily during the year and have been of great benefit to the rural inhabitants. Cesspool emptying remains the greatest problem, especially due to the obligation for the regular emptying of sumps and cesspools to Council dwellings in Fishtoft and Wyberton which will eventually be sewered. This matter will need further consideration by the Council and an additional Cesspool Emptying Vehicle may be required early in 1953 if health conditions on these Estates are to be maintained.

The County Clean Food Campaign has progressed and been actively supported during the year by visits to Traders, Window Display Week and Lectures. The Traders holding Certificates are to be congratulated upon the high standard of food hygiene that has been maintained throughout the year.

Lectures alone will not improve food hygiene. Only by frequent visits to the shops and talks with the Traders and employees will the standard of food premises be maintained and improved.

Food hygiene will continue to be pointed out as the responsibility of every member of the community so that bad practices likely to lead to ill-health may be eliminated.

Due to factors beyond the control of the Council, certain parts of the District have caused anxiety in relation to sewerage but the efficient staffing of the Department has enabled me to control the general sanitary circumstances of the area without cause for any complaint from the public. The work could not have been so efficiently carried out without the willing co-operation from each member of the Council and the guidance of the Clerk of the Council and the Medical Officer of Health.

My thanks are also due to the Sanitary Inspectors and clerical staff of the Department for their support and help in the discharge of my duties.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. ATKIN,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

May, 1953.

HOUSING.

SUMMARY OF NEW DWELLINGS COMPLETED DURING 1952.

Council Houses :

Parish :

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Algarkirk | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Benington | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Fishtoft | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28 |
| Butterwick | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Frampton | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Fosdyke | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Kirton | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Leverton | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Sutterton | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Wigtoft | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Wrangle | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Wyberton | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 40 |
| | | | | | | | | 128 |
| Private Enterprise | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| Housing (Financial Provisions) Act | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects. (Public Health Act & Housing Act) | .. | .. | .. | 85 |
| Number found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | .. | .. | .. | 81 |

REMEDY OF DEFECTS

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| Number of informal notices served | .. | .. | .. | .. | 70 |
| Number of Statutory notices served under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Number of Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |

ACTION UNDER SECTION II, HOUSING ACT, 1936

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of Houses upon which action was taken .. | 11 |
| Number of Demolition Orders made | 2 |
| Number of Undertakings accepted stating that the premises would not again be used for human habitation until rendered fit in all respects | 9 |
| Number of Houses which have been rendered fit in all respects and upon which the Undertaking previously accepted has been cancelled | 7 |
| Number of dwellings demolished during the year .. | 8 |

Action under Section II, Housing Act, 1936, was, as in previous years, enforced chiefly in respect of houses which were considered to be unfit and not repairable at a reasonable cost, the occupiers of which had been rehoused by the Council.

DRAINAGE.

HOUSING ESTATE SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

The new sewage disposal works at Kirton and the new sewage ejector station at Sutterton were completed by the end of the year.

Samples of effluents for analysis have been taken at frequent intervals from each of the Council's eleven plants to ensure that the discharges into the drains are of a satisfactory nature. The effluents were usually found to be satisfactory. The plants have been desludged at intervals of approximately nine weeks.

The Council's Housing Estates at London Road, Wyberton and Toot Lane, Fishtoft are provided with large collecting chambers pending the provision of main sewerage schemes. Two cesspool emptying vehicles are engaged almost full-time on emptying these chambers. A quantity in excess of 60,000 gallons has to be moved from these chambers each week. Many more houses are nearing completion on these estates and the coming year will no doubt be a very difficult period so far as this disposal problem is concerned.

DRAIN TESTING.

Houses erected within the district have been provided with satisfactory drainage systems in accordance with the requirements of the Building Byelaws. Prior to any drainage works being commenced, layouts have been examined by Officers of the Health Department and

all new drains have been subjected to water or smoke tests. The final disposal of sewage from individual dwellings is into cesspools or septic tanks, which necessitate periodic emptying by the Council's Cesspool vehicles.

The number of lengths of new drains tested and passed during the year was 574.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This Service, carried out by 4 vehicles, has continued to give a 9-10 day collection throughout the whole of the Council's District, except on the few occasions when Bank Holidays or breakdowns have caused delays of a day or two, though it became necessary due to the increased number of houses to be visited to employ 2 more loaders.

Controlled tipping of the refuse has been continued but the difficulty of obtaining sufficient soil for covering purposes has again made it impossible to keep all the tips in the condition desired. A tip dressing was applied when considered necessary to discourage insect breeding and very little trouble was experienced from these pests. Two of the larger tips have been completed and are now ready for cropping.

It is estimated that over 3,000 tons of refuse were disposed of into the tips during the year.

The estimated cost of collection per house for 1952 was 25/6d. compared with 21/- for 1951 and the cost per house per collection was 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. compared with 7d. in the preceding year.

SANITARY PAIL EMPTYING AND DISPOSAL.

This work is carried out hygienically by 2 cesspool emptying vehicles specially equipped for the purpose each having a team of Driver and 2 Assistants.

Nearly two thousand dwellings take advantage of the service and the average period between collections is 5 days.

Disposal is by composting with straw in chambers constructed for this purpose and occasionally by pumping into enclosed pits of farmyard manure made available by farmers in the District. The finished compost is utilised as manure on farmland.

The estimated cost per house for 1952 was £2/0/5d. compared with £1/19/8d. for 1951 and the cost per house per collection was unaltered at 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. These costs would have been higher but for the fact that unlike previous years no expenditure was necessary on the construction or maintenance of compost chambers.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

This service, in addition to carrying out the emptying of cesspools, septic tanks and vaults, is required to desludge the Council's eleven sewage plants at 9 weekly intervals and remove all effluent daily from the three large sumps serving estates at Fishtoft and Wyberton.

Pressure of work was such that in March, 1952, the Council purchased a further vehicle, making three now in use on this service. During the summer, the vehicles were working as much as 10 hours a day but the demand for the Service was so great that the period between a request being received and the actual emptying was often 7 weeks.

In July, due to the seriousness of the situation, a Sub-Committee met to consider the position and recommended that the arrangement whereby each dwelling was entitled to a free service during each calendar year should be discontinued and that in future a free service be not given until 18 months after the date of the last free emptying. The Sub-Committee also reviewed the charges in connection with Cesspool Emptying and their recommendations set out below were adopted as from the 1st August, 1952.

- (1) Council and private dwellings (except those Council dwellings mentioned in (2) below) be allowed free service once in every 18 months the term to be computed from the last recorded free service, and for each additional service within this period the charge to be £2.
- (2) Due to special circumstances Council dwellings on the following sites be allowed free service once in 18 months, the term to be computed from the last recorded free service and for each additional service the charge to be 10/- per load of effluent removed, to be charged against the Council's Housing Account :

| | | |
|----------|---|---|
| Wyberton | — | Causeway Solhem Avenue Yarborough Road Fen |
| Fishtoft | — | Fishtoft Road Woodthorpe Avenue |
| Wrangle | — | Bull Drove |

- (3) The charge for this service to all other properties in the District, to be at the rate of £1 per hour with a minimum charge of £2.
- (4) The service for all Council Housing Estates Sewage Plants and Sumps to be charged at the rate of 10/- per load of effluent removed, against the Council's Housing Account.

It is to be hoped the proposed sewerage schemes for Fishtoft and Wyberton, even if in only modified form, will be approved and put into operation with the minimum delay. Thus not only removing the difficulties due to bad drainage, but also enabling the vehicles now spending so much time emptying the Housing Estates Sumps to be employed on individual cesspool emptying.

During the year, 1314 cesspools were given a free service and 383 cesspools and vaults were emptied on a chargeable basis. The total number of loads of effluent removed from cesspools, vaults and Housing Estate Plants and Sumps was 6696, representing well over four million gallons.

SALVAGE.

A trailer is attached to each refuse vehicle for the collection of salvage. Sorting and baling is carried out by two female workers at the Mount Bridge depot.

In the early months of the year the demand for Paper Salvage was great and £16 per ton was realised for Mixed Waste Paper. By June there had been a falling off in demand and the price then being received for Mixed Waste Paper was down to £6/10/0d. per ton. By the end of the year the position had deteriorated even further; difficulty was experienced in disposing of paper even at a reduced price.

| | Disposal | | | Revenue | | |
|-------------------|----------|-------|------|---------|----|----|
| | Tons | Cwts. | Qrs. | £ | s. | d. |
| Mixed Waste Paper | 153 | 18 | 3 | 1425 | 2 | 8 |
| Newspapers | 1 | 9 | 1 | 32 | 3 | 6 |
| Rags | 4 | 16 | 0 | 98 | 4 | 6 |
| Bagging | 3 | 19 | 0 | 41 | 9 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 1 | 17 | 0 | 40 | 14 | 0 |
| | 166 | 0 | 0 | £1637 | 13 | 8 |

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE.

Each cleansing vehicle is retained in the Depot for cleaning and general maintenance once a fortnight. The drivers are responsible for this work and are supervised by the Council's maintenance mechanic.

During 1952, the two pail emptying and one refuse collection vehicles were completely repainted. The remainder of the vehicles in need of repainting will, it is hoped, receive attention during the coming year.

MEASURES AGAINST PEST INFESTATION.

RODENTS.

Number of areas treated by :

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----|
| (a) | Poisoning | 177 |
| (b) | Gassing | 10 |
| Number of premises treated on a chargeable basis | | 8 |
| Number of premises treated free of charge | | 153 |

OTHER PESTS AND VERMIN.

Minor infestations of Ants and Fleas have been satisfactorily dealt with during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Number of Moveable Dwellings licensed :

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Modern trailer type vans | .. | .. | .. | 31 |
| Four-wheeled type vans | .. | .. | .. | 24 |
| Converted buses | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Sheds | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Number of vans on the Council's Caravan Site | | | | |
| at Wyberton | .. | .. | .. | 15 |
| Licensed Sites for Mobile Caravaners | .. | | | 1 |

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is one factory within the Council's area which operates as a Knacker's Yard. Animal matter is processed into fats and artificial manures. Every effort is made by the management to ensure that the factory does not create a nuisance and the machinery in use and method of working is very satisfactory.

COUNTY OF HOLLAND CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

Four years have now elapsed since the Clean Food Campaign began and during the past years, the standard of food premises throughout the District has been most satisfactorily maintained, and in many instances shops holding Clean Food Certificates have installed more modern fittings and equipment. This fact in itself, not only indicates that the Trader has become aware that modern equipment is vital for the proper preparation and storage of foodstuffs, but assures the general public that an effort is being made to produce and sell a safe commodity for human consumption.

I feel certain that as the traders become more aware of the vital necessity for hygiene in food handling, there will be an upward trend in their method of production, storage and sale. Efforts are continuing to encourage more traders to participate in the Campaign.

In July, the County Clean Food Committee organised a Clean Food Week, during which all Traders holding Certificates were asked to display posters provided and devote their windows to displays. The General Stores throughout the District, particularly, made excellent use of their windows and generally the interest shown by the Traders and also the general public was encouraging.

A problem remaining to be considered is the question of the Mobile Traders — Ice Cream vans today are becoming much better equipped and of better structure. The bicycle type of transportation is becoming a thing of the past.

I consider that there is the necessity to encourage persons selling food commodities at Garden Fetes, Shows and other social functions to observe rigidly the general rules of food hygiene. Temporary improvisation of Stalls at these functions is likely to lead to a lowering of the standard of food handling and storage and the number of persons purchasing ice cream, cream cakes and other foods, could give rise to a major food poisoning incident should the food become contaminated through storage or handling of utensils not cleansed thoroughly.

Clean Food Certificates are now held by the undermentioned Establishments :—

GENERAL STORES.

R. C. King, Main Road, Benington.
C. G. Martin, Village, Bicker.
C. R. Johnson, Holland Fen, Brothertoft.
A. Lister, Eastwood Road, Fishtoft.
J. Green, Middlegate Road, Frampton.
A. A. Cantwell, Kirton End, Kirton.
W. E. Wander, Village, Kirton.
Boston Equitable Co-operative Society Ltd., Kirton.
Misses A. & D. Hoyes, Station Road, Kirton.
T. S. Taylor, Main Road, Leverton.
C. J. Hammond, Church End, Old Leake.
Mrs. H. Meyer, Spalding Road, Sutterton.
Boston Equitable Co-operative Society, Sutterton.
H. Luesby & Son, Market Place, Swineshead.
F. Greetham & Son, North End, Swineshead.
C. Stanhope, Swineshead Road, Wigtoft.
Messrs. Walker & Hall, Main Road, Wrangle.
J. W. Pearson, 32 Granville Avenue, Wyberton.
Mrs. D. M. Solomon, London Road, Wyberton.
E. Bontoft, Post Office, Wrangle.
K. L. Newell, Priory Road, Fishtoft.
A. Reynolds & Sons (Boston) Ltd., Butterwick.
W. H. Waters, Post Office, Fosdyke.
Mrs. S. A. Pinion, Church End, Old Leake.

CONFECTIONERS.

A. E. Needham, Halltoft End Filling Station, Freiston.

BAKERS.

S. Howsam, Commonside, Old Leake.

J. West, Drayton, Swineshead.

C. E. Smith & Son, South Street, Swineshead.

M. E. Sands, Rainwalls Lane, Sutterton.

Messrs. G. & B. Truman, Village, Sutterton.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

J. H. Lineham, Main Road, Fosdyke.

F. R. Scrupps, Village, Butterwick.

BUTCHERS.

C. Bontoft, Main Road, Benington.

W. Dennis & Sons Ltd., Frampton.

J. Watson, Village, Freiston.

F. Holland, Commonside, Old Leake.

J. McCartney & Sons, Village, Sutterton.

S. F. Handson, Main Road, Wrangle.

Mrs. M. E. Foster, High Street, Kirton.

J. Dolby, 2 Eastwood Road, Fishtoft.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

Burton House Hotel, Wainfleet Road, Fishtoft.

Mill Hill Restaurant, Boston Road, Kirton. (Miss E. Claydon).

PUBLIC HOUSES SERVING MEALS.

“Coach & Horses” Inn, Main Road, Wrangle.

(Mr. B. S. Greenaway).

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

| | | |
|---|---------|----|
| Number of Distributors of Milk registered | .. .. . | 13 |
| Number of Dealers Licensed for the sale of Pasteurised or Sterilised Milk | .. .. . | 8 |
| Number of Dealers Licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk | .. .. . | 5 |

ICE CREAM.

| | | |
|--|---------|----|
| Number of premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream | .. .. . | 2 |
| Number of premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream | .. | 48 |

91 samples were taken from establishments serving Ice Cream to the public and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratories at Lincoln for bacteriological examination by the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. The number of samples placed in each of the provisional grades is shown below.

| Grade 1 | Grade 2 | Grade 3 | Grade 4 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 39 | 35 | 17 | 0 |

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Within this District there are now 14 Fried Fish Shops and 2 Mobile Fried Fish Vans. Frequent inspections are made at these premises during their hours of business and the standard of hygiene is generally very satisfactory.

SHOPS AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.

These include—

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 53 General Stores | 15 Butchers |
| 3 Greengrocers | 3 Cafes |
| 11 Confectioners | 3 Hotels and Restaurants |
| 16 Bakers | 7 Public Houses serving meals and snacks |

. Frequent routine inspections were carried out at these establishments and 24 informal notices were served requiring works to be undertaken in order to bring the premises up to the required standard. In one case only was it necessary to resort to statutory action.

CONDEMNATION OF FOODSTUFFS.

During the year the undermentioned commodities were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|-----------------|
| Home killed Pork | .. | .. | .. | 2 lbs. 14 ozs. |
| Home Killed Beef | .. | .. | .. | 192 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Cheeses | .. | .. | .. | 15 lbs. 8 ozs. |
| Condensed Milk | .. | .. | .. | 1 tin |
| Confectionery | .. | .. | .. | 18 lbs. 2 ozs. |
| Sugar | .. | .. | .. | 15 lbs. |
| Peaches | .. | .. | .. | 5 jars |
| Sliced Peaches | .. | .. | .. | 8 tins |

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Licences were renewed for 7 Slaughterhouses, none of which are used for the slaughter of animals for sale for human consumption, though they are maintained in a reasonable state of repair and are used for the slaughter of Householders' pigs.

All home-killed meat delivered to butchers in the Rural District is slaughtered at the Boston Borough slaughterhouse and inspected by that Authority's Sanitary Inspectors.

FOOD POISONING.

Two cases of food poisoning were confirmed in the District during the year, both patients being members of the same family. The usual investigations were made but it was found to be too late to recover any of the suspected foodstuffs for examination. It was therefore not possible to identify the causative agent.

Both patients recovered within a few days.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The tables below give particulars of inspections made and the defects found at factories in the District during 1952.

Table 1. INSPECTIONS.

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 12 | 12 | Nil | Nil |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 82 | 97 | 9 | Nil |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total .. | 94 | 109 | 9 | Nil |

Table 2.

Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|--|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. | 7 | 8 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Overcrowding (S.2) .. | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil | Nil |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. | 1 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | 1 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) : | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient .. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective .. | 8 | 17 | Nil | 1 | Nil |
| (c) Not separate for sexes .. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total .. | 17 | 27 | 1 | 1 | Nil |

Means of Escape in case of Fire — Section 34.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the appointed Officer for carrying out inspections at all factories in the District which come within the scope of this Section of the Act.

Outworkers Premises.

So far as can be ascertained no outwork is undertaken in the District.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the appointed Petroleum Officer under the Petroleum Regulations.

The number of installations under licence at the end of the year are shown below :—

PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Below 500 gallons | 46 |
| 500 to 1000 gallons | 131 |
| Over 1000 gallons | 18 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 195 |

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Below $8\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. | 3 |
|----------------------------------|---|

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS CARRIED
OUT BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS, ADDITIONAL
TO THOSE MENTIONED ELSEWHERE IN THIS REPORT.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Housing Act, 1936 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 394 |
| Public Health Act, 1936 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 171 |
| Housing, General | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 40 |
| Moveable Dwellings | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 194 |
| Stables and Piggeries | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 36 |
| Nuisances | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 82 |
| Infectious Diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21 |
| Drainage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 405 |
| Building Licences | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 16 |
| Rodent Control | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 26 |
| Provision of Refuse Bins | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28 |
| Control of Refuse Tips | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 235 |
| Public Cleansing Services | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | | 570 |
| Insect Pests | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 16 |
| Dyke Pollution and Overflowing Cesspools | | | | | .. | .. | 227 |
| Food Premises | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 108 |
| Miscellaneous | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 316 |

